

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Burma

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Anti-Communist Measures in Rangoon

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1. The Government in Rangoon has authorized both army and police to use their weapons against any Left Radical organizations that do not submit to governmental authority. On the list of these illegal groups and organizations are:
  - a. The Communist Party (In Burma called "White Flag," Stalinist)
  - b. Anarchists (Red Flag)
  - c. National Defense Band "Mon"
  - d. National Defense Organization "Karen" (Distinct from organization of similar name, though not called "Karen," listed below).
  - e. Popular Comrades Party (Dissidents who have left the "White Flag")
  - f. Popular Volunteer Organization (Green Communists)
  - g. Rebel Army (deserters)
  - h. Farmers Union (Red Banner--Trotzkyites)
  - i. National Defense Organization (Distinct from that above, being made up by unification of small groups in East Burma, which are in a constant state of rebellion).
2. The reason for the severity of these measures is the increasing activity of the rebels.

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3. Communist rebels of the "White Flag," together with "Karen" troops, had to withdraw after a brush with Burmese Government troops in the woods of Arakan, in the Minbu district (400 kilometers north of Rangoon). The rebels were commanded by Thakin Than Tun. His best lieutenants were Boh Vya, Boh Ye Htoot, Bo Yan Aung, and Goshal, a native of India born in a border district. On their withdrawal, both the Karens and the Communists took hostages with them, demanding high ransoms to release them.
4. Assault troops of the Burmese Government also had a fight with armed rebels in the vicinity of Pyr, 220 kilometers north of Rangoon.\* Increased activity by the rebels are also reported along the old Burma Road, where reinforcements are brought up for the Communists. In the area within a two hundred kilometer circle around Rangoon itself, several attempts to blow up trains have been reported. These took place in last Oct or very early Nov 1953.
5. Together with Thakin Than Tun, the controlling officials of the Communist Politburo are Thakin Ba Thein and Bob\*Zeya. They came with Tun from Burma to Minbu.
6. The previously reported repair of the Burma Road\*\*\* takes on an interesting significance in the light of the foregoing paragraphs. It should be noted that the alarming policy of the Burmese Government in May 1953 has now clearly given way to a realistic attitude toward the danger of a Communist outbreak.

\*[?Pyu?]

\*\*[Boh Zeya]

\*\*\*[See [REDACTED]]

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